

Jr. This year, Aurora Community of Faith presented the Spirit of MLK Award to Dr. Shannon-Bannister for her selfless service as an ally and advocate for our community. Devoted to a cause greater than herself, Dr. Shannon-Bannister works tirelessly to take risks and address critical issues and concerns in the lives of everyday people—just as Dr. King did.

Dr. Shannon-Bannister dedicated her life to serving the community. From founding several nonprofit organizations that aid the underserved to bringing the Aurora Branch of the NAACP to Colorado, she has long been engaged in civil rights advocacy and issues impacting marginalized communities. Upon her retirement from a 36-year career with the City of Aurora, Dr. Shannon-Bannister has focused her efforts on Grand Design Inc.—a nonprofit organization she founded in 1984 to preserve cultural and musical traditions of the Black community in Aurora. It is still one of the only Black performing arts companies in the city.

Dr. Shannon-Bannister is a fervent advocate and champion for the African American community, and her commitment—and voice—has never wavered from aiding those in need. Her extraordinary career and service to our community epitomize what it means to live a life for others. In honoring the legacy of Dr. King, I can think of no one more deserving of the Spirit of MLK Award. I congratulate and thank her for her incredible dedication to our community.

HONORING THE CITY OF LONG BEACH AS THE COMMUNITY CELEBRATES 100 YEARS SINCE ITS FOUNDING

HON. JAIME HERRERA BEUTLER

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 15, 2022

Ms. HERRERA BEUTLER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the City of Long Beach, as the community celebrates 100 years since its founding in 1922.

On this historic occasion, I find it important to briefly revisit the history of Long Beach. Originally purchased as a parcel of land by Henry Harrison Tinker in 1880, the land was transformed into a small town known as Tinkerville. Only a few decades later in 1922, the coastal town of Tinkerville would be reestablished under a new name—Long Beach.

Long Beach has certainly transformed over the years. But while physical structures may have come and gone, the spirit and resiliency of the folks who call it home have not.

As Southwest Washington's Member of Congress, it's an honor and privilege to serve and represent this special community. I will continue working to make sure Long Beach remains a great place to live, work, and raise a family.

Once again, I want to honor the City of Long Beach, as it celebrates 100 years since its founding. May the city and its people flourish for 100 more.

HONORING THE LIFE OF HAVEN J. BARLOW

HON. BLAKE D. MOORE

OF UTAH

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 15, 2022

Mr. MOORE of Utah. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Haven J. Barlow. Utah lost a community giant who lived to be 100 years old. It's hard to believe, but Haven's life was nearly cut short when at just nine months old a train struck the Model T Ford he was riding in, killing his mother and 3 other passengers. Fortunately he survived and lived a full life in service of others. Haven served our country as a Navy Ensign in World War II and was the longest serving state legislator in Utah history, first elected in 1953 and served until 1995.

Haven's service to Utah and Davis County is immeasurable where he spent much of his time focused on matters pertaining to education. He led the fight to establish and fund the first state vocational institution in Davis County—now Davis Technical College, the establishment of Weber State/Davis Campus, and Utah's creation of the weighted pupil index (WPU) ensuring a child can get the same level of education regardless of where they lived. In addition, Haven helped establish the Hill Aerospace Museum, the Freeport Center, the restoration of Utah's Governors Mansion and was behind the original Utah Symphony Endowment fund.

Haven was married to Bonnie Rae Ellison for 58 years before her passing and raised 6 children.

CELEBRATING THE WORK OF WALTER SMITH, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, DC APPLESEED

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 15, 2022

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the critically important and remarkable work of Walter Smith, who, after over 20 years, is stepping down as the executive director of the DC Appleseed Center for Law and Justice. At DC Appleseed, Walter has made significant contributions to the District of Columbia on issues ranging from democracy to public health to the environment to education.

I have worked closely with Walter in the fight for statehood, congressional voting representation and home rule for D.C. Walter has been one of the intellectual architects of these efforts, leading litigation, testifying before Congress and authoring legal opinions.

Walter has led DC Appleseed's important work on HIV/AIDS, early childhood programs, special education, drinking water, the Anacostia River and end-of-life care. Last year, Walter's work led to a settlement with a health insurer that resulted in the creation of a \$95 million fund to address public health needs in D.C.

Walter has litigated numerous cases before the U.S. Supreme Court, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit and the D.C. Court of Appeals. Prior to joining DC Appleseed,

Walter served as Special Deputy Corporation Counsel at the D.C. Office of the Corporation Counsel, which is now D.C.'s Office of the Attorney General, where he oversaw major litigation. Prior to his D.C. service, Walter practiced appellate litigation at Hogan Lovells for 16 years, where he served as a partner and was the full-time director of the firm's pro bono practice. Walter also served as a Lieutenant in the U.S. Navy JAG Corps.

Walter is a graduate of the University of Oklahoma and Harvard Law School. After law school, Walter clerked for a judge on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit.

Walter has been recognized for his outstanding legal work. For example, Walter received the President's Award from the Washington Council of Lawyers in 2011, was named one of the "90 Greatest Washington Lawyers of the last 30 years" in 2007 by the Legal Times and received the D.C. Bar's highest award for public service, the Brennan Award, in 2014. He has also enjoyed an active role in local musical theater, starring in several major productions.

I ask the House of Representatives to join me in recognizing the important contributions of Walter Smith, and to congratulate him as he steps down as the executive director of the DC Appleseed Center for Law and Justice.

HONORING THE LIFE OF JONATHAN "JON" FLAGLER

HON. TED LIEU

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 15, 2022

Mr. LIEU. Madam Speaker, I rise to celebrate the life of Mr. Jonathan "Jon" Flagler, a beloved community member and firefighter in the 33rd Congressional District who passed away in the line of duty at the age of 48 on January 6, 2022.

Born on October 9, 1974, Jon was born and raised in the neighborhood of San Pedro in the City of Los Angeles. He attended Crestwood Elementary School, Dodson Middle School, and graduated Class of 1992 from San Pedro High School. Immediately after high school, Jon threw himself into working towards his passion, dedicating his time to helping others by becoming a firefighter. After high school, he attended El Camino Community College to take fire science classes and then later graduated from Rio Hondo's Fire Academy. Jon continued his education and graduated with a bachelor's degree in Fire Administration from California State University, Los Angeles in 2001.

Jon began his 21-year career as an industrial firefighter with Northrop Grumman Aerospace in 2002 before being hired by the City of Vernon Fire Department later that same year. He spent the majority of his career working at Vernon Fire Station One and Three. In 2020, Jon relocated to the Los Angeles County Fire Department after the agency took over firefighting services for the City of Vernon. As a part of the Los Angeles County Fire Department, he worked at Fire Station 22 before moving to Fire Station 83, located in Rancho Palos Verdes, just a few blocks from his childhood home. Tragically, Jon lost his life in the line of duty—bravely fighting a fire, selflessly protecting the community he served.